SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : All the parties have exhausted the time allotted to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the parties have exhausted the time allotted to them. Now, we are on bonus time. Everybody will be getting a chance to speak. All of us will sit here and whoever wants to speak on the Railway Budget and the Demands for Grants will get a chance.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : It was decided in the Business Advisory Committee, by all the parties, that whatever might be the time, we shall allow all the Members who are willing to speak. That was one decision which was taken in that Committee. When the Deputy-Speaker was in the Chair, he said that one should not take more than ten minutes time. Many of the Members, from your side as well as from our side, have spoken for more than ten minutes. So, let us be tolerant. The dinner is ready; we will have our dinner and come back. Let everybody speak on this.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, I will conclude within three minutes time...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, let us not waste the time of the House. Let him conclude. Everybody will get a chance to speak.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, the North-Eastern region is a land-locked area with a perennial flood problem and the road condition is also very bad. Everybody in this House knows about it. The North-Eastern region is entirely dependent on the Railways for the supply of foodgrains and other essential commodities like salt, sugar, cement, edible oil, house building materials, fertilisers etc. More than 40 lakh tonnes of goods are carried by the Railways for the benefit of the North-Eastern region people. Sometimes, there are difficulties because every year, the railway line is disrupted by floods, which occur four to six times in a year, and as a result the flow of goods is also disrupted creating a lot of misery to the people of the North-Eastern region. My request to the hon. Minister of Railways is that he should give special priority for allotment of railway wagons for the North-Eastern region so that these essential commodities would reach those difficult areas in time.

I want to make just one more point. In the North-Eastern region, during the British period, a lot of land was acquired. So, a lot of railway land is available, but the illegal encroachment of the railway land is going on in a very rampant way. Sometimes, I feel that the railway officials are also involved in giving away this valuable land to the encroachers. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Railways to pay sharp attention so that these encroachments can be stopped.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways has given an annual outlay of Rs. 8,130 crore, and that is eight per cent more than the last year's outlay. He has talked about many ambitious new programmes and new lines. But without the budgetary support these things will not be implemented. If these things are announced and not completed in time, that will create more discontentment among the people. So, I request the Prime Minister to give necessary advice to the hon. Minister of Finance so that proper budgetary support is given to the Railways.

With these few words, once again, I congratulate the hon. Minister of Railways for acknowledging the difficulty and trying to meet some of the pressing needs of the North-Eastern region. Sir, once again, I also thank you for giving me the permission to express my views.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to inform the hon. Members that they have to assemble in room No. 70 at 8.15 hrs. for dinner and the pressmen will also go to room No.70. The dinner for the staff has been arranged in room No.73. I request all of you to go there at your convenience.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Dwarka Nath Das ji will speak. Please wait for a minute, we have to take some legislative business before you speak.

20.09 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (EIGHTIETH AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of articles 81, 82 and 170)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

20.10 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill

* Published in the Gazzette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2, dated 25.7.96.